

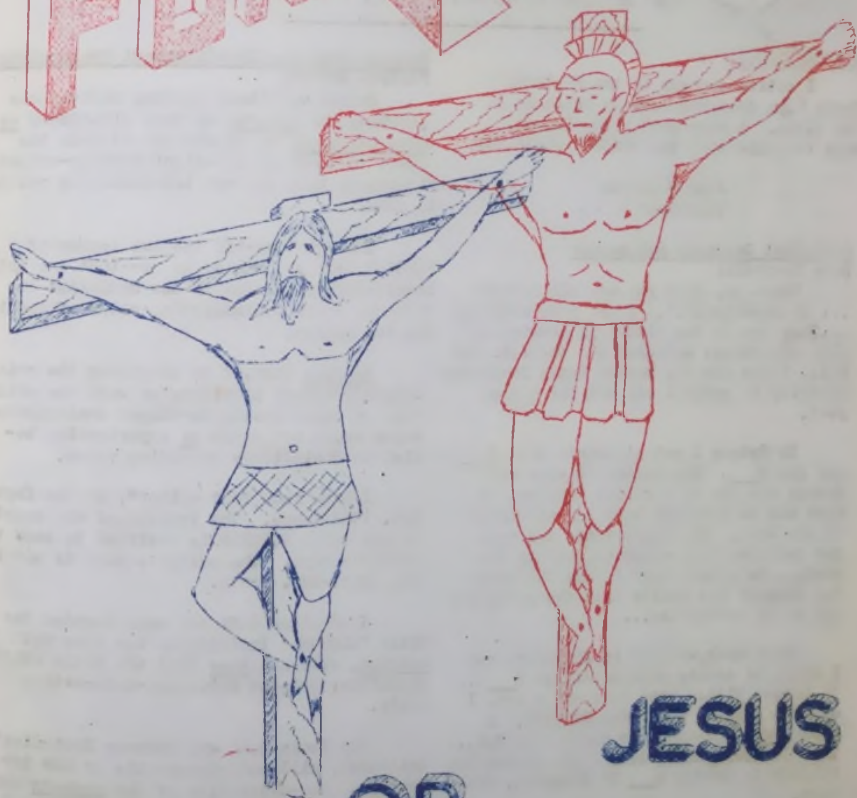
TEN  
CENTS



MARCH-APRIL 1969

VICTORIA, B.C.

Fulcrum



OR

JESUS

SPARTACUS ?



# SOAP BOX

You,  
the reader,  
are invited to climb aboard and sound  
off on anything which is on your mind, on  
any subject. Please address material for  
"The Soapbox" to Editor, Fulcrum, P.O. Box 237, Victoria, B.C.

Dear Comrades:

I notice changes in the FULCRUM.  
Perry Noya dead and serious articles in  
his place. A very good issue indeed.  
More readable than the WESTERN SOCIALIST.

John Woolcock  
Vancouver

## Socialist Overseas Ambassador

Dear Comrades:

Chins up, hope you are all alright  
... In Auckland (N.Z.) I met five comrades  
... They are in the middle of drawing up a  
plan of action: Articles for the W.S. and  
S.S., tapes for the Boston Radio Programme  
activity in general all set for a good  
year.

In Sydney I met stalwarts Bill C\_\_\_\_  
and Joe M\_\_\_\_. Joe is the 70 year old  
digger who due to a recent accident at  
work had to have his left leg amputated  
at the knee. He fought tooth and nail  
for compensation which he gave to the  
party... He's been told to use the money  
for himself but insists that the party can  
put it to better use...

Next week we land in Singapore and  
I shall be seeing comrade Willie R\_\_\_\_...  
In London Willie used to speak a lot. I  
will be passing out a few FULCRUM. I  
have already done so in Aussie and N.Z...  
I would like you to send a few back-dated  
FULCRUM to George D\_\_\_\_ in Kingston, Jam-  
aica.

Hope you have a great year.  
With my greatest comradely regards.

Your Comrade,  
Joe Mc Guinness  
Musician, S.S. Oriana

## Censure From the Grandiloquent Prolocutor Fulcrum Editor:

Should we intend causing individuals  
learning the natures of those situations we  
have analysed, we should not explain the  
great numbers of not-significantly-valuable  
situations that are not intrinsically related  
to them.

The opinions--in the two issues of  
FULCRUM that you mailed to me--that are not  
intrinsically related to the Socialist in-  
tention, cause contradicting value of reading  
the two issues.

Reading them, I am imagining the opin-  
ions-expressers providing me with the evi-  
dence of their having developed omniscience,  
which would not cause my experiencing be-  
lief in Socialism's expanding value.

I have read "our editor", in the Sept.  
Oct. 1968 issue. The individual who court-  
eously reads FULCRUM is entitled to know the  
editor's name. The editor's name is not in  
the Sept.-Oct. issue.

I consider inflated egos decided the  
title FULCRUM. Individuals who have not  
learned, will not know that the title FULCRUM  
signifies: printed Socialist-information  
units.

The individual who intends Socialism's  
existence, will not obscure his or her in-  
tention. Non-discipline of the numbers and  
the natures of the words (in the 2 issues I  
have read), causes suspicion of the value of  
reading THE WESTERN SOCIALIST and SOCIALIST  
STANDARD.

Kay Ash  
Sooke

### JESUS---SPARTACUS

The purpose of this article is to compare two men who lived in about the same era. Both born of the lower classes, both thought they had something to say and were crucified for saying it. One is revered today as god or at least a man with something really important to say; the other is all but forgotten.

Jesus is reputed to have been born between 8 and 4 B.C. The fact that nothing is known that was written by him and the writings that we have about him were written about one hundred or more years after his alleged death need not concern us here. The contention that Jesus was an invention may or may not be correct. Likewise 'Jesus' was as common a name as is Smith today and therefore the biblical story could be an account of the activities of more than one man. What concerns us here is that there were such men as the story of Jesus relates.

Jesus was a rabbi who wandered the country with a small band of disciples, associating with 'outcasts' and making speeches critical of the establishment--a kind of band of Palestinian "hippies" living largely on the charity of their audiences. Needless to say, due to the already existing unrest on the part of the subjected classes the ruling classes were more than a little concerned and finally "blew their cool" when Jesus overturned the money lending tables in the temple in Jerusalem. He was tried and convicted as a blasphemer and with the approval of the suppressed classes, who were getting a little impatient for some action, he was crucified.

Spartacus lived about a hundred years earlier. He was one of the many slaves of the Romans. In 73 B.C. he escaped and began to gather an army of revolutionary slaves. In two years they numbered between 70,000 to 90,000 and made a good accounting of themselves defeating Roman army after Roman army. In time the inevitable occurred. In 71 B.C. the great might of the Roman slave owners defeated Spartacus and his army. Without mercy, the slave owners killed everyone that they captured; six thousand slaves being crucified along the Appian Way to Rome.

The message of Spartacus was simple- FREEDOM! The message of Jesus was not so simple; while critical of the status quo in some of its forms he wished to reform some of its evils while ignoring one of its greatest evils-slavery. Jesus' aims seemed to be spiritual rather than physical. When questioned he told his flock that his world was not of the earth. Spartacus was very much the materialist; no one gave him and his followers a free ride. Historians (especially Roman) are inclined to deal rather harshly with Spartacus while they paint Jesus as a gentle lamb. Yet Jesus proposed that non-believers be murdered (Luke 19:27). The contrasted behaviour of Spartacus was demonstrated by the fact that after the Romans had murdered the last of his army they found 3,000 Roman prisoners unharmed in Spartacus' camp unharmed and in good health. On the cross Jesus is reputed to have said "Forgive them father, they know not what they do". Spartacus was unlikely to have been so naive about the intentions of his tormentors.

In summation, it has been shown that Jesus with his "Render unto Caesar" attitude, while he was critical of their methods actually advocated submission to authority and was actually resigned to the existing Social Order- Slavery. Spartacus, on the other hand, advocated freedom for all men and consequently the termination of slavery. Jesus was a reformer; Spartacus a revolutionary. Due to the degree of ignorance and the limited level of production then existing both were almost certainly doomed before they began.

Today reformers abound with little physical danger to themselves. Indeed they provide a valuable service to the master class-a kind of value criticism without really challenging the capitalist's property rights. The revolutionaries of today are

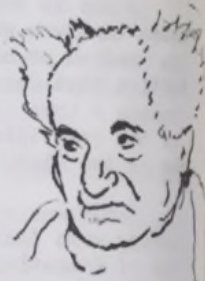


SPARTACUS--JESUS cont'd

rather microscopic in number. Unlike the times of Spartacus, productivity today is potentially developed to provide an abundance for mankind. Also unlike Spartacus the revolutionaries of today have no need nor, indeed, any inclination for bloody warfare. The enemy today is ignorance. The revolutionary's weapons are knowledge with the final victory in this war of ideas to be won with the ultimate weapon that circumstances force the capitalist class to give to the working class-Parliament.



ISRAEL

A HOME FOR PERSECUTED JEWS? OR ANOTHER FIELD FOR CAPITAL?

Some Israelites, it seems, can get all coked up over their alleged homeland; like the dispossessed have done and do in other homelands. And by "dispossessed" is meant wage-workers, who must sell themselves for a livelihood, having no other possessions to offer to the market. Other countries are often blamed for their own problems.

"Everybody in Beirut, (Lebanon) would go broke if real peace ever came and Israel had a chance to grow into the business and money centre it is capable of being", one Israeli remarked. And -"Lebanon is a nation interested in commerce and finance". (Daily Colonist, Nov.1/68). Which is like saying "the sun rises in the east". But sadly to say millions of others think that nation states (especially the 'good' ones) function for all the people within their boundaries. The name-calling that goes on between spokesmen for the various profit-making competitors on the world scene come dangerously close to describing the nature of the social relations that spawn modern war. This same news report was titled Israeli Financial Threat (to Lebanon).

The evidence points to Israel being like all others of its species, a geo-political entity dedicated to serving the unearned incomes of the minority class that owns and controls the means of production and distribution.

Back in June, 1959, the coalition government of the founder of this state was shaken by a non-confidence motion attacking the government's plan to sell \$2,800,000 worth of arms to West Germany. The opposition denounced Ben Gurion's plan by invoking the memory of 6,000,000 Jews slaughtered by the Nazis during the war. It would seem silly to imagine that this sale was to be made without the intention of realizing a profit, and logical to deduce that profits are what nations are all about. Not workers. Not even victims of death camps. Further, the camps were an indirect result of the German Rulers' attempt to regain a foothold in world markets again, after the 'great' depression.

A Year earlier Ben Gurion had found the predatory interests of his paymasters in trouble with humanitarian ideals too. At that time it was over BUYING arms FROM West Germany. He said then, "If you offer me a choice between all the ideals in the world as glorious as they may be, and the security of Israel, I will unhesitatingly choose the latter". (Daily Colonist, July 7/59)

ISRAEL (cont'd)"GIVE"

There is no evidence of common interests between the majority of people and the owners of capital who live off them. But this now useless class have the money to pay politicians and the press, etc. to attempt to prolong the myth, in their interests. There was, said patriotic Ben, a Hebrew saying which didn't translate too easily into English, "But basically it says that there are two kinds of people in the world, those who give, and those who receive. Today we want the kind that give, but give of themselves."

"Israel", he said, "Can provide for those who come to give of themselves a meaning to life." (Daily Colonist, Nov. 1/68)

Very peculiar, because only the other day, the other day the security officer on the ambushed El Al airliner who bravely gunned one of the Arab attackers between the eyes, was said to be trying to save up enough money to attend university. Surely to goodness a life with any amount of moaning should preclude any barriers to a university education. Young Mordecai Rachamin's family, which considers itself too poor to take enough time off from work in the orange grove to talk about his son, had no money even for passports, much less a flight to Zurich to try to help Mordecai (who was detained after the Arab guerilla attack on the Israeli plane in Switzerland). (Daily Colonist Feb. 29/69)

That capitalism is generally the same in Israel as it is in Russia, Morocco, the U.S. or elsewhere can be seen from reports of income tax dodgers there, of 'racial' undercurrents between 'Oriental Jews' and European Zionists. (Victoria Daily Times, Jan. 30/69)

The rat-race, Israeli style, also includes propaganda to the workers to increase their birthrate, carefully avoiding any comparison with Hitler's call for more German babies. (Victoria Daily Times, Jan. 30/69)

It includes economic booms and recessions. Just a few weeks before the billion dollar June war, "Israel was on the verge of economic collapse. About 100,000 unemployed, more than 10% of her total labour force, were rioting in the streets, crying out for bread and work. Professionals, intellectuals and skilled workers emigrated for greener pastures at an alarming rate". (Daily Colonist, July 4/67)

Banks had folded, businesses went bankrupt and the Israeli pound fell to 25¢ on the black market.

Then came the war and, "Now we shall experience an economic boom...for the next 5 to 6 years", said Dr. Adam Halperin, an economic adviser to the Israeli treasury. It looks like Lebanon is not the only small nation that may find war useful for the prosperity of its rich owners.

There is nothing new in the observation that for the workers, whatever their skin colour, religion or nationality wages merely renew productive energies, generally, enabling them to perpetuate the dreary process. The surplus product is received by the affluent owners of the factories, mills, mines, etc. Yes, David, there are "two kinds of people in the world". Givers and receivers. They are actually classes. And for the givers there is not much meaning in life; in Israel or anywhere else.

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ANYTHING FOR VOTES

The Chilean Communist party has blamed the government for the lack of rainfall on that country's breadbasket. (Daily Colonist, Feb. 20/69)

### THE CHINA versus RUSSIA FEUD

Like a broken record, we have it incessantly drummed into our ears that Russia, China, Cuba, etc. are parts of the "Communist world". With equal regularity, the crises of this "Communist world" reveal themselves to be of the same variety as crises in the rest of the world. Reason: the "communist" world is capitalist like the rest of the earth and is consequently not a world unto itself, but is an economically and culturally integrated part of the capitalistic whole.

Class sovereignty needs ideologies to help keep the dominated in their place. Converting Marxist science into a ruling class ideology has worked fine for businessmen in those parts of the world.

The continuing, and now worsening relations between China and Russia probably had their beginning when Russia withdrew "aid" from capital development there, and pumped its funds into other planetary areas where returns promised to be higher. The Kremlin's money men invest for highest profit, as do their counterparts elsewhere. Indications are that Russia is a growing competitor in the South-East Asian market and material also where the Chinese entrepreneurs already have their hands full fighting their American rivals who have had this jackpot sewn up for some years now; principally via Vietnam violence. Territory on their common border has also been a bone of contention between these two countries, which both guarantee the right to hold private property in the means of production in their constitutions.

If a shooting war develops, it will be "par for the course". The normal way for capitalism's competing national groups to finally settle their economic disputes.

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### PEACEMONGERS

Anti-war demonstrators broke up a meeting by Senator William Fullbright in New York recently. They placed several pig's heads on platters on the speaker's table and began chanting, "Ho, ho, Ho Chi Minh, NLF is gonna win!"

There are three kinds of pacifists in operation these days:

- (1) Those who support the 'bad' guys in any war.
- (2) Those who support the 'good' warmongers.
- (3) Those who support the capitalist cause of wars just as much as the unilateral supporters of war do, but do not support wars directly. Like the Joan Baez type.

It does not seem to bother them whether 'good' guys are getting walked over, whether 'our' side is good, bad or indifferent, whether freedom is allegedly being lost or any other wild story is used to encourage workers to die for their national employers' interests.

But at election time, like the others, they obediently vote for this rightist candidate, or that leftist one---capitalist supporters all. They see no connection between the relations of production in extant society and the military threat to the continued social evolution of man.

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### TITO DOES ALL RIGHT IN TITO-LAND

"On assuming power he soon started to indulge his taste for luxury. He has at least 20 villas, in some of which he has never stayed. He drives in a giant Mercedes 600,



### TITO DOES ALL RIGHT cont'd

one of the most expensive cars in the world, and also owns 2 Cadillacs, several smaller Mercedes, a few Chevrolet Impalas and many Russian zils. His personal Blue Train and his personal naval training ship take him on longer journeys. He owns the island of Brioni, where Archduke Franz Ferdinand once had a villa. The neighbouring small island is Tito's "fun place", as one recent visitor called it. There Tito has a private zoo, a private bowling alley and a metal workshop with several lathes on which he practices his old craft. His wife, a former shepherdess and partisan guerilla, now plays her part with regal authority". (Sunday Times, Nov. 3/68)

Tito's "breakaway" regime has been called more liberal than the true-blues back in Moscow, as has Roumania's and as was Czechoslovakia's. Ideological smokescreen again. There just happens to be better openings for some sales in the West, and other business advantages in the West, than there is with their old partners in the East.

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### THE MAD MAN

You two young lovers entwined in each others arms are drifting along the street. You are so wrapped up in the ecstasy of your new-found experience that you do not notice the glassy-eyed old one who approaches you. Suddenly he has each of you by the arm; he is shaking you; you are too surprised even to shake free. With crazed urgency he speaks, "You'll have a baby someday! Don't go to the hospital! Have it on the street; anywhere, but not in the hospital!"

The policeman who takes him, not unkindly, by the arm winks, "Come along Ig", he says, "These young people have more important things on their minds".

A month later the man, from his own hand, suffers an agonizing death. Insane??? A raving madman??? Perhaps

It is 1865. The man on the slab in the morgue was Ignaz Phillip Semmelweiss. He was forty-seven. Twenty years earlier he was a brilliant young man entering the medical profession. This was a man destined to give medicine a message. A simple message, so simple and in the light of today's common knowledge, it would hardly seem necessary to make anything of it. The message? WASH YOUR HANDS!!

However, in this time of enlightenment, a mere grain of sand ago relative to man's history, the badge of a great surgeon was the number of bloodstains on his tunic. It was considered proper to keep mere mortals in terrified awe at the gory mess with which doctors decorated themselves. Another factor that combined with this behaviour, was that most hospitals were, at that time, connected with universities. A lecturing doctor in the university amphitheatre would operate on a cadavre; having left the theatre he would proceed to the nearby hospital and deliver a baby. Too often the mother would then suffer two days of fever followed by delirium and death. At this time it was called "child-bed fever" but it later received the name of puerperal fever. An alarming number of maternity cases ended in just this way.

To his horror Doctor Semmelweiss discovered that his fellow surgeons were actually killing these women. In the amphitheatre, the doctor would get decaying human matter from the cadavre on his hands and would in turn infect the pregnant women, causing their deaths. As a young professor of obstetrics Semmelweiss was able to establish antiseptic regulations and, in spite of the fact that many of his students and colleagues regarded him as an eccentric to be ignored, in the Pest hospital he reduced the rate of maternal

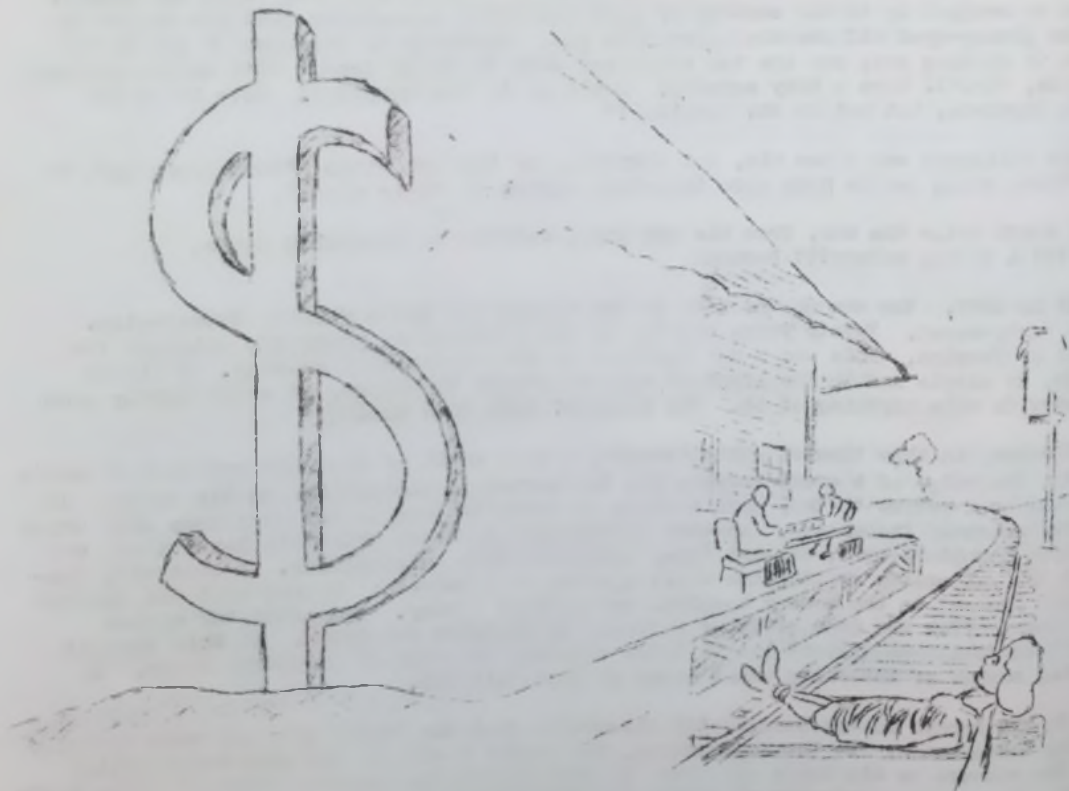
THE MAD MAN cont'd

puepperal fever from 16% to 1% in two years.

It would seem reasonable to suppose that the medical profession would hail Semmelweis' discovery. On the contrary- they laughed at and scorned him. The death rate continued. After yeats of futile appeal to his colleaugues and a consequent breakdown in health, Semmelweis frantically rushed into the ampitheatre, slashed his hand with a scalpel and thrust it into a cadavre. In two days he was dead of puepperal fever.

The purpose of this writing is not to frighten people or to discredit the medical profession; this matter has been solved for a hundred years. Nor is its purpose to extoll or put down martyrdom. Its purpose is to help us examine ourselves and to get a better understanding of human behaviour in order to avoid potential follies. These doctors were well-educated men. Yet when faced with facts that proved their behaviour in error they used defensive mechanisms to protect themselves and shut their eyes.

Is it not possible today that some ideas that are regarded with ridicule and scorn might be equally as correct as the ideas of Semmelweis?



"It's okny.... we're discussing the best way to save you."



# ABOLISH GUNS!

**G**orde Hunter of The Daily Colonist is concerned over the rising toll in deaths issuing from contemporary violence. He understandably deplored the appearance of guns during the recent eviction confrontation on the Blanshard urban renewal project, describing it as "a failure of the democratic process."

Obviously there is a vast gulf separating our concept of democracy, involving as it does -- the self administration of free people, and his -- which would involve "peaceful" and legal settlement of the disputes which take place between competitors in the class dominated society of today.

But this is just the fringe of his treatise last February 8. "The utopian hope," says Gorde, "is the total and absolute destruction of all publicly owned small arms." He goes so far as to restrict hunting and to preclude target and clay pigeon shooting.

Gorde must be awful busy these days. So busy in fact, that he has completely overlooked a social phenomena that looms so large that no matter which way you turn your head, you can't avoid seeing it. Unless you close your eyes.

Society, from here to Lower Slobovia and back, is divided between owners and non-owners of the means by which all must somehow try to survive. Ever since this division was initiated around 10,000 years ago there has been turmoil between those who produced but didn't own, and those who owned but didn't produce. This antagonistic economic foundation in turn spawned other conflicts of interests, frustrations, jealousies, despair, ad nauseam.

In Gorde Hunter's kindergarten sociology we can get rid of most murders by dispensing with one of the more common means of murder -- guns, while giving nary a thought to the motivations of murder.

He spoke of the 5,000 gun killings annually in the U.S., implying that there are other methods for premeditated or impassioned homicides. Like being heaved out of sky-scraper windows, run down by autos, poisoned, knifed, burned, and a host of others that could be innovated if guns became scarce, by mentally deranged or emotionally disturbed derelicts of the storms of capitalism.

We of the Socialist Parties could be accused of oversimplifying the problem in a different way to what Gorde does, by advocating common ownership and free access to all the goodies of the earth for all people as the way to abolish both kinds of crime -- crimes against property, and crimes that violate the persons of others. At first glance that is.

THE SCIENTIFIC VIEWPOINT -- is a bit more complex than the popular single-causers would like any theory to be.

The Mother Goose tale that there is a bad streak in all of us, and that it does not matter what happens externally, we will do evil, is a defeatist myth, and probably accounts for some of the political apathy around today. Including Mr. Hunter's complete unconcern with motivations. The other theory, that environment alone accounts for human behavior, is just as well ventilated as original sin.

The evidence preponderates in the direction of two causes for human behavior. (1) Human nature, plus (2) social circumstances. If the environmental rules are based upon dog-eat-gog, then that's the way the victims will behave. But the human factor is dynamic. The social circumstances can be changed by the victims, to better surroundings of co-operative harmony, wherein people will not suffer the emotional explosions that account for so many murders today.

Another note in passing. Gorde complains of the gun lobbies and observes that, "Legislators vote the way they're instructed..." He's right. And they are instructed by those who pay them, the owners of the means of production. →

→ Including the gun manufacturers. He says, "Someday sense, not money will prevail, and the gun manufacturers will be out of business."

But when sense prevails, money won't exist, won't be needed, whether guns are produced or not. The unbearable hang-ups that afflict people today will generally be absent. Where the motivation to murder is missing, the deed will also be an absentee.

## SHORT SHOTS -

### "BRAZEN BOY"

There is a bit of Socialism in every wage-worker, even those who protect private property, like policemen, lawyers and judges, much as they might disagree with such an observation, and to their probable horror if they were ever informed of that particular truth.

Part of the philosophy of Socialism includes a practical understanding of capitalism, which everyone who has to sell his energies for a price has, at least in small and varying degree. A local magistrate demonstrated a part of his some time ago when he castigated a 19 year old student from Hong Kong who was apprehended while doing his Xmas shoplifting, early. This student's parents are apparently of that other class, and provided their son well.

What caught our eye was His Honor's comment that the youth was " ' an extremely privileged young man who had no need to steal." (Daily Colonist, Nov. 30/68).

That has been our contention for decades. Poverty is the basic cause of crime.

### ANOTHER UNFINISHED DEBATE

Once again a fellow worker has told us that we should not criticize Paul Getty and others of the super rich. The reason our detractors give is usually, "because these rich people provide a lot of jobs for workers." That's just fine for Getty. That is how he stays rich -- jobs. If workers did not produce for the propertied class, these bums would have to work for themselves. But they could never provide the bounty for themselves that their obedient servants hand out to them. There are not enough of them for one thing. In this particular discussion, our non-Socialist friend thought we were criticising the rich, when in fact we were explaining the wages system that enables a few to rule over the many, without the need to work themselves. As is so often the case, the informal debate took place on the job. It was interrupted by our fellow worker's rush, to get on with his job, the job of keeping the rich rich.

### TWO KINDS OF DANGER

"A man who left his 3 year-old child behind a beer parlor in a cardboard box was sentenced in central court Monday to four months in jail" for endangering a tot.

The magistrate said that decent people "treat animals more humanely than the way you treated this child." If this man's child had been older, and he had sent the child to the dangers of Viet Nam, or any of the other current conflicts, he probably would have been regarded as quite decent. Modern political ignorance breeds odd priorities.

### "SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND TO AID VIET NAMESE"

So says a newspaper heading, describing a venerable Canadian charity organization which has now extended its sheltering wing to little victims of that war over the loot of Asia. Daily Colonist, Ap. 5/66. While south of the border the cry is -

SUPPORT THE WAR IN VIET NAM

which might help explain why we can't



get enthusiastic about charity in this acquisitive society. The system can take far more out of the poor man's pocket than charity can put in it.

### A COMPULSORY RIGHT

"I'm advocating that any person has the right to work," said Premier Bennett, (Daily Colonist, March 15/69). A couple of months previously Sarnich firemen were voicing objections to overwork. Their spokesman said- "Technically the firemen cannot strike since they are a volunteer operation." (our emphasis). Generally speaking, any producer can quit, and subsist on even less than wages would inadequately bring, if he was lucky enough to get the dole, or starve. It is amazing the way that something compulsory can be converted in a "right" when the boss's politics demands it.

### "WORKER DIES JUST BEFORE RETIREMENT"

A typical news item which occupies the tragedy scale just a notch below the 39-year-old-salesmen's-heart-attack-variety, is the story of an employee who suffers fatally from an industrial accident just before he achieves the freedom of retirement. Another one of these has shown up in today's sheet. (Daily Colonist, March 22/69).

In this case the victim was on overtime it seems. He had survived in action, to the age of 66. Millions of employees acknowledge (even if they try to relegate such an odious fact to the back of their minds and only think pleasant thoughts) that wage-work is similar to serving time. Serving is right. To serve means to give - freely. That means with no recompense. That means the giving of values above the value of wages received. That is the source of profits, and the immense wealth of the rulers of society. And time is correct. Because it is drudgery and a form of enforced idleness in that only a fraction of the server's potential is used, and this fraction is subverted to profit providing. The rest lies dormant.

These are some reasons why retirement on a dole (pension) is anticipated like a rising sun at the end of a long, dark tunnel. And why sympathetic comments are common when clinical life is snuffed out just before the goal is reached.

### WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT ?

"Organized labor in Victoria, alarmed by increases in lumber costs, has called for a take-over of the forest industry of the province," says a report in the "Colonist," March 6/69.

May we ask these enlightened unionists, why ?

When postal rates have just gone up in the state owned Post Office ? When high fares are charged on the state owned ferry system that many people claim should be free because it is more like a highway ? When the freight rates are high on the state owned Canadian National Railway ? And the rising rates charged by the state owned hydro system ?

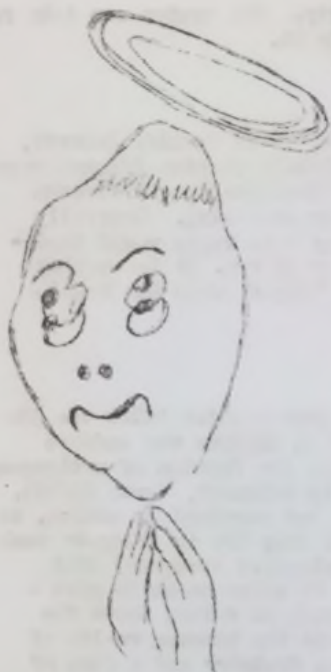
One of the barriers to freedom that slows the comprehension of the useful section of the rat-race seems to be its self depreciation. Workers don't think very highly of themselves. It is part of the crushing of individuality that takes place when human beings are subverted into commodity producers, a process beginning in early childhood.

We would point out that natural self-awareness and pride can grow with increased political awareness of the source of human alienation. We urge the dispossessed to redouble their efforts to understand the seeming complexities of the modern quagmire. So that they can set their sights on an objective which befits humans. An objective higher than the bosses' state control of their industries, higher wages in "good" times, or crumbs during depressions.

A society where one can realize one's living potential, be a harmonious human in a world of happy humans, doing what one wants to do, unencumbered by material, social or mental deficiencies of any kind. A world without the worker vs. boss relationship.



# ETERNAL MORALITY



Morality, like all proceedings, is relative as well as absolute. Morality, peculiarly a social reality, as with all social affairs, is dependent upon material interests. In a class divided society, morality is likewise divided because of antagonistic class interests. A morality upholding class ownership of wealth must run into progressively heavy buffeting from the proletarian non-property morality. And this latter has been subject to changes during past ages and we aspire to even mightier changes in the near future, and in the "truly moral" direction.

Faster Beach complains: "Near-sighted moral principles, which take into consideration the situation and not eternity, were becoming more prevalent..." (Melb. Age, Nov. 28, 1968). He denies the practical or relative aspect of morality while at the same time failing to define "eternal morality" which he claims to champion.

On practical morality Dietzgen writes: "The individual man finds himself lacking, inadequate, limited in many ways. He requires for his fulfilment other people, society, and must therefore, in order to live, let live. The mutual concessions which arise out of these relative needs are called morality". Now truly moral or eternal morality as distinct from the relative, "...would have to serve the welfare of all mankind, under all conditions and at all times...A moral law which would presume to be absolutely right, would have to be right for everyone and at all times." Positive Outcome of Philosophy.

What for Christianity passes as eternal morality dashes itself to pieces on the rock of class antagonism. Is thieving right or wrong? Is killing? Hypocrisy? or, taking the Lord's name in vain? Yet all these and much more besides are everyday experiences of everyone under capitalism. In the same breath all of this conduct is both condemned and damned, or else excused or ignored, praised or approved, and most usually along the lines of class cleavage. So Christian eternal morality of necessity becomes relative morality.

Socialists realising that already the material foundations have been firmly laid for mankind to take one step nearer to becoming master of its own destiny, advocate the abolition of the prevailing anti-social and thereby immoral economic set-up and the establishing of Socialism. Since socialism "... involves the emancipation of all mankind regardless of race or sex," the corresponding morality emerging therefrom must be a lot closer to the concept of eternal morality.

Since Pastor Beach has declared his dissatisfaction with less than eternal morality he perhaps can recognize our claims to a morality nearer to his ideal than his own version of Christian morality, and will gladly join us in our endeavours. He surely

is aware of the war waging on all fronts: between each man and all other men, man and nature, man and his own conscience, class and class, nations, religions, races, sexes, war between capital and labor, rich and poor: to name but a few points of conflict. We are aware of the major underlying property and economic spur to these conflicts. We would draw his attention, (though our main task is educating our own class along these lines); to the socialist interpretation of history, past, present and future and invite him then to learn of and to advocate socialism and thereby participate in a practical manner in something closer to his own undefined ideal. Then, instead of opposing, he would be thrusting along, "...the revolution in economic, philosophic and political thought pervading every walk of life". (Melb. Age) Pastor Beach here unconsciously has set out these revolutions in their correct sequence and in accord with materialist views i.e., (1) economic (2) philosophical (3) political. Otherwise he is likely to be pushed along or run down by these changes which now appear to be outside of his comprehension. Were he qualified to join us in our efforts, Beach could become one of the shapers of democracy proper.

Melbourne January 1, 1969

C. Peter Furey

#### JAPANESE "A"-BOMB

M

inoru Genda, who lead the Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor, was bawled out by Japanese opposition legislators after he said in the U.S. that "Japan would probably have used the A-Bomb in the second

world war had it had one." (Daily Colonist, Jan. 12/69). National capitalist groups fight wars to win them, for business reasons, not for humanitarian motives - or wars could hardly take place. The only moralizing that is done is to cover up the profit interests that motivate the combatants. As all sides did in that war. And as the U.S. did when it atomized Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

#### MISSILES FOR HUMANITY

B

ut the moralizing continues. Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau intimated that if U.S. anti-ballistic missiles to be stationed in Montana and North Dakota had to be used, an awful shambles would be made of Canada, from Pen-ticton to Ontario at least. On his impending

chat with Nixon on the location of these rocket sites, he said he did not know what agreement would be reached, but whatever it would be, the object would not be the welfare of Canadians alone, but of all humanity. (Radio Station CFAX, March 17, 1969).

Whatever the historical connection may be, between the color green and naivety, it may be noted that he let that one out on St. Patrick's day.

#### POST TRUDEAUMANIA

A

nybody wondering what our attitude to Trudeau was during the last federal election, is invited to send for a copy of our election brochure which was distributed at that time. A few copies were saved.



W

e aim to build a world community of common ownership and democratic control, with production for use, not profit. We oppose all other political parties, all leadership, racism and wars.

Our complete Declaration of Principles is published in every issue of THE WESTERN SOCIALIST and THE SOCIALIST STANDARD.



## OBITUARY

LABOUR STATESMAN, Labour newspaper of the B.C. Federation of Labour. Cause of death is attributed to the increased postal rates. More likely there were numerous causes. The paper was in bad financial shape even before the postal increase. One source of the malaise was that the Labour Statesman tried to do it too big with a large circulation mostly given away to unionists with some doubt as to the number actually read. Another factor was the fact that the paper had degenerated into a mere tool of the N.D.P. Perhaps if organized labour had shed their revered garb of respectability and reduced themselves to selling their paper on the street like the Georgia Straight they might have not only survived but would have managed to get the paper into the hands of those workers who wanted to read it.



Apologies to O' THE LEVEL

**MURDERED VICTORIA CAPITALIST** Questions Victoria police might ask: What were this man's business interests? Were those with whom he had business dealings satisfied with their end of the stick? Questions that Socialists might ask: Why do the working class continue to support a system that degenerates and demoralizes them? A system in which the highest attainable goal is to dupe your fellow man.

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